

NAU MAI HAERE MAI

WELCOME TO WORSHIP



*Acts 8:26-40*

ST PAULS LUTHERAN CHURCH

ŌTAUTAHI

TE RĀTAPU TUARIMA O TE ARANGA

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

28 APRIL 2024

CHRISTCHURCH

## NAU MAI HAERE MAI

## WELCOME

As a community of faith here at St Pauls, we welcome all who are seeking God's love and grace. We welcome all because God welcomes all.

We welcome all without regard to where you are in your personal faith journey, whether you are a life-long Lutheran, or you come from another faith tradition, whether you are doubting, or you have no faith practice at all. Our unity is in Christ who embraces all.

We invite you to fill out a Visitors Card *if you want to* and to place it on the offering plate, hand it to an usher or give it to Pastor Mark.

If you – or someone you know – would like to know more about a relationship with the Lord Jesus or our church community here at St Pauls, please –

Speak to Pastor Mark Whitfield after worship, phone him on 028 85001875 or email him on [mark.whitfield@lutheran.org.nz](mailto:mark.whitfield@lutheran.org.nz) at any time

... or speak with one of our members during the fellowship time after worship.

All are welcome. You are welcome.



## GOD'S MISSION THROUGH US

Going in the power of the Holy Spirit, to the people  
of Burwood, Ōtautahi Christchurch and beyond,  
making them disciples of Jesus Christ

## WHAKATUWHERATIA OKU NGUTU

## O LORD, OPEN MY LIPS

Worship begins with God. The psalmist writes –

**Lord, open my lips, so my mouth will praise you**

*Psalm 51:15*

In Christian worship, God serves his people – *Divine Service* – with his love through Word and Sacrament and we respond with our prayers and songs of thanks and praise.

Here at St Pauls, we use a variety of musical settings for liturgy and worship. Most of the music in this morning's setting is by **Stuart Townend, and Keith and Kristyn Getty**. We are encouraged by the Confessions of the Lutheran Church that the liturgy for Sunday worship is the liturgy of the Lord's Supper (Holy Communion) –

One common Mass is observed among us on every holy day, and on other days. If any desire the sacrament, it is also administered to those who ask for it.

*The Augsburg Confession*

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## GATHERING

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*Mibi and Words of Welcome*

*Waiata – Gathering Song*

To be in Your presence  
To sit at Your feet,  
Where Your love surrounds me,  
And makes me complete.  
This is my desire, O Lord,  
This is my desire.  
This is my desire, O Lord,  
This is my desire.

To rest in Your presence,  
Not rushing away;  
To cherish each moment,  
Here I would stay.  
This is my desire, O Lord,  
This is my desire.  
This is my desire, O Lord,  
This is my desire.

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Words and Music: Noel Richards

*Iriiritanga – Remembrance of Baptism*

Christ our Host is present with us.  
**We are gathered by his own Spirit.**

Drink gladly from this True Vine, for you will never drink in vain.  
**Here the poorest can eat and be satisfied,  
and all seekers shall praise the Lord with joy in our hearts forever!**

Ki te ingoa o te Matua o te Tamaiti o te Wairua Tapu.  
Em nome do Pai, do Filho e do Espírito Santo.

Yumi lotu long nem bilong God Triwan: Papa na Pikinini na Holi Spirit.  
In the Name of the + Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

*Whaakinga – We confess our sin and seek God's forgiveness*

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your  
people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone.

**Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive  
your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

*We sing*

**O God, you search me and you know me.  
All my thoughts lie open to your gaze.  
When I walk or lie down you are before me:  
Ever the maker and keeper of my days.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence for reflection*

Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.

**We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what  
we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved  
you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as  
ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on  
us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in  
your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

*We sing*

**For you created me and shaped me,  
Gave me life within my mother's womb.  
For the wonder of who I am, I praise you:  
Safe in your hands, all creation is made new.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us,  
and for his sake God forgives us all our sins.

As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I  
announce the grace of God to all of you and declare to you the entire forgiveness of all  
your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

*Himene – Entrance Song*

How deep the Father's love for us,  
How vast beyond all measure,  
That He should give His only Son  
To make a wretch His treasure.  
How great the pain of searing loss –  
The Father turns His face away,  
As wounds which mar the Chosen One  
Bring many souls to glory.

Behold the man upon a cross,  
My sin upon His shoulders;  
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice  
Call out among the scoffers.  
It was my sin that held Him there  
Until it was accomplished;  
His dying breath has brought me life –  
I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything,  
No gifts, no power, no wisdom;  
But I will boast in Jesus Christ,  
His death and resurrection.  
Why should I gain from His reward?  
I cannot give an answer;  
But this I know with all my heart –  
His wounds have paid my ransom.

*Karakia – A Prayer for Today*

Kia noho a Ihowa ki a koutou. The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Loving Lord, apart from you we can do nothing. With you all things are possible. **Graft us into your true vine, inflow us with your resurrection sap until we become aligned with your direction and destiny. When the fruits have been picked, our leaves fall, and autumn comes with a chill wind, help us to accept whatever pruning back is needful for your glory, in the name of Christ. Amen.**

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WORD

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*Te taima o ngā tamariki – Especially for Kids*

*Preparing to hear God's Word*

**Speak, O Lord, as we come to you  
To receive the food of your holy Word.  
Take your truth, plant it deep in us;  
Shape and fashion us in your likeness,  
That the light of Christ might be seen today  
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith.  
Speak, O Lord, and fulfil in us  
All your purposes for your glory.**

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Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

©2005 Thankyou Music

*The First Reading – Acts 8:26-40*

<sup>26</sup>Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a wilderness road.) <sup>27</sup>So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship <sup>28</sup>and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup>Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” <sup>30</sup>So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” <sup>31</sup>He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. <sup>32</sup>Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: “Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. <sup>33</sup>In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.” <sup>34</sup>The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” <sup>35</sup>Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup>As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch

said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?”<sup>38</sup> He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him.<sup>39</sup> When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing.<sup>40</sup> But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

This is the Word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Psalm 22 (selected verses)*

Now when I stand in the con - gre - ga - tion, there all my  
 praise will come from God. And in the  
 pre - sence of those who fear him, there I will  
 pay my vows to him. Then there will be food  
 for the poor, then they will be all sa - tis - fied.  
 Praise him, all those who seek the Lord,  
 and may your spi - rit ne - ver die.

*The Second Reading – 1 John 4:7-21*

<sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup>God’s love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup>In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. <sup>13</sup>By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.

<sup>14</sup>And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup>God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. <sup>16</sup>So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

<sup>17</sup>Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. <sup>18</sup>There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. <sup>19</sup>We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup>Those who say, “I love God,” and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. <sup>21</sup>The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

This is the Word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Lord, let my heart be good soil*

Lord, let my heart be good soil, — o pen to the seed of your  
Word. Lord, let my heart be good soil, — where



love can grow and peace is un-der - stood. Lord, let my heart be  
 good soil, — o - pen to the seed of your Word.  
 Lord, let my heart be good soil, — where  
 love can grow and peace is un-der - stood. Lord, let my heart.  
 Lord, let my heart. Lord, let my heart be good soil. —  
 Lord, let my heart. Lord, let my heart. Lord, let my heart be good soil. —

Words and Music ©Handt Hanson

*Rongopai – The Gospel – John 15:1-8*

Ko te Rongo Pai nō te Pukapuka a Hāto Hoani.  
 a reading from the Holy Gospel according to John:  
**Glory be to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. <sup>2</sup>He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be

done for you. <sup>8</sup>My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

Ko te Rongo Pai a te Ariki; the Gospel of the Lord:  
**Praise be to you, O Christ.**

Lord Jesus, thank you for being the true vine and making us your branches.  
**Keep us united to you and help us to bear much fruit. Amen.**

*Kōrero Whakatau – The Sermon*

### **SITTING (being) ALONGSIDE**

Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” So Philip ran up to it and heard [the Ethiopian eunuch] reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him.

*Acts 8:29-31*



*Affirmation of Baptism – The Apostles’ Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried.**

**He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God, the Father almighty,  
from thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Himene – Hymn (Song) of the Day*

**The Church of Christ in every age  
Beset by change but Spirit led,  
Must claim and test its heritage  
And keep on rising from the dead.**

**Across the world, across the street,  
The victims of injustice cry  
For shelter and for bread to eat,  
And never live until they die.**

**Then let the servant Church arise,  
A caring Church that longs to be  
A partner in Christ's sacrifice,  
And clothed in Christ's humanity.**

**For he alone, whose blood was shed,  
Can cure the fever in our blood,  
And teach us how to share our bread  
And feed the starving multitude.**

**We have no mission but to serve  
In full obedience to our Lord:  
To care for all, without reserve,  
And to spread his liberating Word.**

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Fred Pratt Green 1903–

WAREHAM  
William Knapp 1698-1768  
LHS-804

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MEAL

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*Karakia – Prayer*

Jesus said, 'If you abide in me, and my words abide in you,  
ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.' Let us pray.

Help us abide in you, Jesus,  
**And hear our prayer.**

*Closing Prayer*

Thank you, Father, that you hear us and care for us in all our needs.  
**Open our eyes that we may see you in your Son Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns  
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Hongi – Te Rangimarie – the Peace of the Lord*

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

*Koha – Offering – as the Table of the Lord is set*

**We bring the gifts that you have brought us,  
We sing the songs that you are teaching to us.  
Take our lives, take our time,  
Take our possessions; make us your gift to the world,  
Make us your gift to the world.**

Loving heavenly Father, thank you for giving us new life through your Son.  
**Make us fruitful branches of the true vine.  
Help us to keep trusting in him and to show your love by loving other people.  
Lead us to live in harmony with one another and to help others in need.  
Amen.**

*Preparing for Holy Communion*

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and good, Lord God, holy Father,  
 that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you,  
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.

But most of all we praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son,  
 the true Passover Lamb, who has taken away the sin of the world.

By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising again he has restored life.  
 And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the other witnesses of the resurrection,  
 with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels,  
 cherubim and seraphim, we adore and praise your glorious name:

The musical score is written on ten staves of music. The lyrics are as follows:

*Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, —*

**Assembly**  
*Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, — Ho - ly Lord God of hosts, —*

*Ho - ly Lord God of hosts. — Hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry.*

*Hea - ven and earth are full of your gl - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. —*

*Ho - san - na in the high - est. — Bles - sed, — bles - sed is he,*

*bles - sed, — bles sed is he, he who comes in the name of the Lord,*

*he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est,*

*ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est,*



*Words of Institution*

*E to matou Matua i te rangi – The Lord’s Prayer*

Made bold by the Holy Spirit, we pray as Jesus taught:

<b>Our Father in heaven,</b>	<i>E to matou Matua i te rangi</i>
<b>hallowed be your name,</b>	<i>Kia tapu tou Ingoa.</i>
<b>your kingdom come, your will be</b>	<i>Kia tae mai tou rangatiratanga.</i>
<b>done,</b>	<i>Kia meatia tau e pai ai ki runga ki te whenua,</i>
<b>on earth as in heaven.</b>	<i>kia rite ano ki to te rangi.</i>
<b>Give us today our daily bread.</b>	<i>Homai ki a matou aianei he taro ma matou mo tenei</i>
<b>Forgive us our sins as we forgive</b>	<i>ra.</i>
<b>those who sin against us.</b>	<i>Murua o matou hara, Me matou hoki e muru nei i o</i>
<b>Lead us not into temptation,</b>	<i>te hunga e hara ana ki a matou.</i>
<b>but deliver us from evil.</b>	<i>Aua hoki matou e kawea kia whakawaia;</i>
<b>For the kingdom, the power,</b>	<i>engari whakaorangia matou i te kino.</i>
<b>and the glory are</b>	<i>Nou hoki te rangitiratanga, te kaha,</i>
<b>yours,</b>	<i>me te kororia,</i>
<b>now and for ever. Amen.</b>	<i>ake ake ake. Amine.</i>

*Lamb of God*

**Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away,  
Slain for us: and we remember:  
The promise made that all who come in faith  
Find forgiveness at the cross.  
So we share in this Bread of life,  
And we drink of His sacrifice,  
As a sign of our bonds of peace  
Around the table of the King.**

Holy Communion is a means of grace.  
It is a gift from God, instituted by Jesus on the night before his crucifixion.  
This gift is Jesus himself; that in and through the bread and wine we are offered  
Jesus – his body and blood, his life, his presence.  
Come if you believe that Jesus' life and all it offers is for you.

*At the end of Holy Communion*

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ make you strong and keep you in his grace.  
Peace be with you.

**Amen.**

Loving heavenly Father, you sent your Son Jesus Christ  
to reconcile the world to yourself.

**As we have received his body and blood,  
keep us united with him so that we may bear the fruit of love.**

We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Te karakia whakamoemiti – Our Song of Thanks*

**Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace  
According to your word,  
For I have seen how you have sent  
Your Son to save the world from sin.  
Now your salvation is revealed –  
A light that shines in this dark world for all.  
A light that glorifies your saints.**

**And so with thankfulness and faith  
We rise to respond and to remember  
Our call to follow in the steps of Christ  
As His body here on earth.**

**As we share in His suffering,  
We proclaim: Christ will come again!  
And we'll join in the feast of heaven  
Around the table of the King.**

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Stuart Townend, Keith and Kristyn Getty

*Celebrations, Notices and Announcements*

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**SENDING**

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*Mānawatanga – Blessing*

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with kindness and give you peace.  
**Amen.**

*Waiata – Sending Song*

**To be your presence is our mission here,  
to show compassion's face and list'ning ear,  
to be your heart of mercy ever near,  
Lord, bless and send us, to be your presence.**

**To be your presence is our mission bold,  
to feed the poor and shelter homeless cold,  
to be your hands of justice, right uphold,  
Lord, bless and send us, to be your presence.**

**To be your presence is our mission blest,  
to speak for all the broken and oppressed,  
to be your voice of hope, your love expressed,  
Lord, bless and send us, to be your presence.**



We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice,  
to serve your people is our call and choice,  
and in this mission we, the church, rejoice,  
Lord, bless and send us, to be your presence.

Delores Dufner 1939–

SINE NOMINE  
R. Vaughan Williams 1872-1958  
LHS-213

*Poroporoaki – Sending*

Haere i runga i te aroha, haere i runga i te rangimārie. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Amen (Amine); we go in the name of Christ.**



<i>Readings</i>	Acts 10:44-48 (Psalm 98), 1 John 5:1-6 and John 15:9-17		
<i>Reader</i>	Philippa	<i>Holy Communion</i>	Debbie
<i>Usher / Welcoming</i>	Andrew	<i>Hospitality</i>	Judith

**This Week**

<b>Today</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	Worship
	<b>11.30am</b>	Brief congregational kōrero re ministry opportunities for St Pauls
<b>Monday 29</b>		
<b>Tuesday 30</b>		
<b>Wednesday 1</b>		Mark is attending the <i>Roman Catholic–Lutheran Dialogue Commission</i> meeting in Wellington today
<b>Thursday 2</b>		
<b>Friday 3</b>		
<b>Saturday 4</b>		
<b>Sunday 5</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	Worship

**In our prayers**

- As we work through the **ministry opportunities being presented to us** ... especially as we continue our conversation with the board members of a **local Community Trust** ... and that we as a congregation can **get behind the opportunities**
- For students, teachers, support staff and everyone as they **return to school** for Term 2
- For peace in the **many places in the world where there is conflict, violence, war**, and where innocent people are being injured and killed ... the people of Gaza, Ukraine, Israel, Russia, etc.

Ascension Day Devotion and Dinner

9 May



You are invited to an **Ascension Day Devotion** at the church followed by **dinner together** (5.30pm-7.00pm)

<i>Sunday</i>	John 15:1-8	Jesus the true vine
<i>Monday</i>	Acts 8:26-40	Philip and the eunuch
<i>Tuesday</i>	1 John 4:7-21	God is love
<i>Wednesday</i>	Ephesians 3:14-19	Christ's love for us
<i>Thursday</i>	Psalm 91	Assurance of God's protection
<i>Friday</i>	Exodus 34:6-7	God of steadfast love and faithfulness
<i>Saturday</i>	Psalm 22:25-31	A vow of thanksgiving
<i>Sunday</i>	John 15:9-17	Love one another

*Verses for the Week* | I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit ... apart from me you can do nothing. *John 15:5*

*Prayer for the Week* | Loving God, we thank you for your steadfast love that remains with us forever and guides us into the future through Jesus Christ our Saviour and Lord. Amen.

*Mealttime Prayer* | Dear God, we thank you for feeding us with this food and for nurturing our lives with your presence through the true vine, Christ our Lord, who gives us life. Amen.

*A Blessing to Give* | May God's love lead you to love others. *1 John 4:19*



consider joining a  
LIFE Group  
at St Pauls

(please fill out the registration form that will be provided to you)

something *for the kids* ... *young and old* 😊

# "I AM" THE VINE

Spot 8 differences between the two pictures.



**LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**  
OF NEW ZEALAND  
Te Hāhi Rūtarua o Aotearoa

*where love comes to life*